Sargent Outlines Format for '58 PGA Championship

With the PGA Championship, to be held July 17-20 at Llanerch CC, Haver- town, Pa., being held on a medal play basis for the first time, Pres. Harold Sar gent recently outlined the format for the 1958 competition.

Special invitations will be given to the first five PGA approved tournament players among the 52 leading PGA money winners for the period from Jan. 1 through the USGA Open, which will be held June 12-14. This year, for the first time, a definite number of approved tournament players will get bids to the Championship. Gene Littler was the only person who received such a bid in 1957.

Another major innovation makes all current champions of the 32 local PGA sections automatic qualifiers for the Championship. Thus, many club pros who are outstanding players but seldom appear on the tournament circuit, will appear in the 40th renewal of the PGA event.

170 in Championship Field

Approximately 104 qualifiers for the Championship will be decided at 36 holes in local sectional tournaments to be played June 16. If weather forces postponement, trial rounds will be held on June 23. A field of about 170 will take part in the Championship.

Exempt from qualifying will be the following:

Lionel Hebert, the 1957 champion and all other previous PGA Championship winners; members of the 1957 Ryder Cup team; the eight quarter finalists of the 1957 event; Marty Lyons, Llanerch's resident pro; Gene Sarazen, '58 Seniors champ; Dick Mayer, the '57 Open winner; and current champions of the 32 local sections.

Mid-Atlantic PGA Seminars

During February and March, the Mid-Atlantic Section of the PGA conducted a series of seminars that were held primarily to instruct assistant pros in various phases of instruction and pro shop management. They were held at Sligo Park GC, Silver Spring, Md., with Max Elbin conducting the sessions. Among those who spoke at the seminars were Roger Peacock, Bill Hardy and Al Houghton. Forum discussions followed lectures at all sessions.

Northwest PGA Sponsorship

Northwest Section PGA and the Plantation GC, Boise, Ida., are co-sponsoring the annual Southwest Idaho Amateur, to be held July 3-6, and the Northwest Open which will be played July 24-27.